

PUBLISHED DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY.
AT THE STAR BUILDINGS,
1101 Pennsylvania Avenue, corner 11th St.,
The Evening Star Newspaper Company,
S. H. KAUFFMAN, Pres.
New York Office, 38 Potter Building.

The Evening Star is served to subscribers in the city by carriers at the rate of 10 cents per week, or 40 cents per month. Copies at the counter for single days 5 cents. Outside the city, by mail, at the rate of 10 cents per week, or 40 cents per month. Postage paid at Washington, D.C., as second-class mail matter.
All mail subscriptions must be paid in advance.
Rates of advertising made known on application.

Vol. 83, No. 20,728.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1893—TWELVE PAGES.

TWO CENTS.

JOHN YOUNG'S DEATH

It is Investigated by a Coroner's Jury Today.

THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN'S STORY.

Those Who Saw the Old Man and the Two Girls.

THE LATTER EXONERATED.

In a little frame shanty on East Capitol street, only a few squares from the jail, there was a sad sight yesterday morning. John Young, an elderly colored man, who had occupied a room there in his brother's house for many years, had died, and it was thought that his death resulted from an alleged assault, for which two colored women, Agnes McCullough and Rosie Washington, were under arrest. The latter, which it was alleged, he received his fatal injuries happened Wednesday afternoon, and his death followed two days later.

When Deputy Coroner Schaeffer reached the house yesterday to perform the autopsy he found the body in the little kitchen, where there was every evidence of poverty and suffering. The door of the little room was in a dilapidated condition, and the only good luck on the part of the doctor that the door did not injure both himself and the corpse when it toppled over.

The autopsy was performed in face of the numerous obstacles, and without finding any evidence of violence.

The two colored women occupied seats in the sitting room of the 5th police station this morning when Coroner Woodward and a jury of six doctors came to hear the evidence and determine the cause of the old man's death. Lawyers Moss and Peyton appeared for them.

Dr. Mudd's Testimony.
Dr. Mudd, who was called to see the old man, described the scene presented when he was called to the house. He found him lying on the kitchen floor, where some old clothing had been spread for use as bedding. His extremities were cold, he was pulseless and unable to speak. Peritonitis, he said, was the cause of the old man's death.

There was no fire in the room where he found the body, he said, the parties in the house gave him the best treatment they could.

Eugene Gaskins, a colored boy, whose blue striped suit, red necktie and badge distinguished him from the others, was next sworn. He saw the old man with the two girls on Tuesday evening. The girls stopped the old man and asked him for five cents. Young told them to run and they said, "No, we'll give you 10 cents."

They walked over near a shed and after they had been there awhile the old man cried "police." He was then taken to the police station, where he was held for several times and the girls ran. Young staggered away and went around the corner. He saw the girls leaving the old man, but did not see them handle him roughly. Witness identified the prisoners as the girls whom he saw with the old man.

Heard Cries of Murder.
Frank Gaskins, brother of the preceding witness, next appeared. His clothes were stained with blood, and he had a very scarred face. He saw the prisoners with the old man and heard part of their conversation. Witness heard cries of "murder" and "police" and when he went in the direction of the trio the girls left the old man and walked up 16th street.

The policeman who investigated the case and made the arrests explained the location of the fence and shed and also explained the streets and alleys.

Frank Gaskins, a colored boy, was called, but he said he knew nothing of the affair. He saw the girls with the old man Tuesday evening, but he saw no trouble, nor did he hear any outcry.

James E. Wayne, also colored, gave corroborative testimony.

Several other witnesses were examined, but nothing new was elicited. The jury returned a verdict exonerating the women and they were released.

TWO CLAIMS CONVENTIONS

Being Negotiated Through Diplomatic Officers With Venezuela and Spain.

The United States is at present engaged, through its diplomatic officers, in negotiating conventions with two nations, under which the claims of citizens of each country against the government of the other may be submitted to commissioners with a view to arriving at a speedy and satisfactory adjustment and settlement of them. The first of these countries is Venezuela, and the negotiations with it are being conducted at Caracas by Minister Partridge, and the negotiations with the second, the Republic of Spain, are being conducted at Madrid by the same official.

The principal claim now pending is that of the Venezuela Steam Transportation Company, a New York corporation, which had a franchise for operating on the Orinoco river and tributaries, and whose disposssession of that franchise was the basis for the claim.

The other country is Spain, negotiations with which are being conducted in Washington by the Venizelos-Gresham and Minister Muranga. There are numerous claims arising out of controversies between the citizens of the United States and the government of Spain, which will be submitted to the commission to be appointed, among them the celebrated Ma claim.

GUARDING THE WATER SUPPLY

Against Pollution From Surface Drainage Along the Potomac.

Col. Elliott's report of operations on the project of curbing the pollution of the receiving reservoir shows that the excavation of the main drainage tunnel was carried on day and night during the entire month of October, and that on November 1 there had been 374 feet excavated. Two hundred and two feet have been timbered.

The excavation of the shaft in the valley of Little Falls was begun October 12. Into this shaft, from the bottom of which leads the tunnel now being driven under Deale Hill, will be carried all of the polluted water and other drainage water from the watershed of the Potomac. The water of the tunnel on the southern side of the hill will flow off into the Potomac. To guard the water of the branch machinery from the water of Little Falls branch in floods the channel of the branch has been cleared from the west to the east side of the valley.

Naval Movements.

The Vesuvius and the Dolphin arrived at Boston today, and will assist in marking and keeping clear the course on the trial of the Columbia.

The U. S. S. Michigan will start from Chicago tomorrow for Erie, Pa.

DEPARTMENTAL METHODS

Being Looked Into by Representative Dockery's Commission.

Work of the Experts, Who Are Practically Business Men—Practically Unlimited Scope Allowed.

Representative Dockery of Missouri has returned to the city from a visit to his district. To a Star reporter this morning Mr. Dockery said that the joint departmental commission will hold a meeting on the 27th of this month and resume its work of examining departmental methods. He thinks that no definite line of action has yet been agreed upon, but deems it likely that the members may visit several of the departments, and that they will attend to some matters upon which they desire to be enlightened.

Successful Work So Far.
The work of the departmental commission has proven more successful even up to this time than many people thought it would, it is said, and it is claimed that the commission has hardly scratched the surface of things yet. There are many branches of departmental matters which the committee will look into, and it hopes to inaugurate many economical and business-like changes in the present modes of doing business.

The commission has employed two experts from outside the government service, thorough business men, and practical ideas who go through the department and inquire into details of every kind affecting the management of the department. They ask questions, and they are to be given answers, and if they conceive a more economical, more speedy, practical and thorough way of doing than is at present practised they recommend a change to the commission.

Old Fashioned Methods.
There is said to be a good field for investigations of this kind on account of existing methods which, it is claimed, are in many instances old fashioned and modeled to suit a period when the business of the government was not as extensive as it is now, or when times and conditions were totally different. These old methods have been allowed to remain undisturbed, it is explained, from administration to administration, and such a conservative regime of officials being content to transact the public affairs in the same way that their predecessors did, or else being indifferent or not having the power to change them.

The result is, it is alleged, that in many of the departments the machinery of the public business is clogged with cumbersome methods, and that the public affairs are put in modern places, but the commission has set itself to do.

Unlimited Scope of Action.
The commission has almost unlimited scope of action, as was demonstrated by the legislation recommended to and adopted by Congress, and which will change the method of enrolling bills, and the old-time plan to be abolished and replaced by a new one.

The commission will take cognizance of the original plan to be better transacted of public business, and will carry out its plans by incorporating changes in appropriation bills without their being amenable to points of order against them.

Examining Commodore Skerrett.
And Yet He Is in Prison on His Way to China.

A naval board, composed of Admirals Ghens, Gifford and Brown, met at the Navy Department today for the examination of Commodore J. S. Skerrett for promotion to the grade of rear admiral. Commodore Skerrett has just been relieved from command of the naval forces at Honolulu.

In his examination, Commodore Skerrett was asked questions at the suggestion of Lawyer Moss. In doing so he denied that he was with the girls at the time the old man cried for assistance, and that he saw them stand by the old man and leave him.

"Never mind," said Policeman Gordon. "I'll attend to that."

Commodore Skerrett, a colored, was called, but he said he knew nothing of the affair. He saw the girls with the old man Tuesday evening, but he saw no trouble, nor did he hear any outcry.

James E. Wayne, also colored, gave corroborative testimony.

Several other witnesses were examined, but nothing new was elicited. The jury returned a verdict exonerating the women and they were released.

CHINESE CERTIFICATES.

Report of the Secretary of the Treasury Sent to the Chinese Minister.

The Secretary of State today transmitted to the Chinese minister the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, in which he complains against the action of United States authorities at New York in refusing to recognize certificates issued to Chinese subjects by the Chinese consul general at Havana. It seems that Mr. Schaff, the Chinese Inspector at New York, has questioned the official acts of the consul general in question to such an extent as to practically deprive Chinese with or without certificates from landing from Havana.

It is alleged in justification of Mr. Schaff's action, which, it is said, has so far met with the approval of the Treasury Department, that to put it mildly, the Chinese consul general at Havana is a "bad actor." Recent investigations have proved that Chinese who have presented at New York certificates stating that they were "actors," "students" or "merchants," were not what they represented. The result was that they were sent back to the consul general at Havana, and were told to learn the English language in Cuba, and under a liberal construction of the Chinese exclusion act are permitted to pass through the United States to Hawaii.

It is said that the Secretary of the Treasury bases his defense of the practice at New York on these allegations, with the suggestion that the Chinese consul general at Havana is a "bad actor," and that his position alleged will result in a change in the treatment of Chinese certificates.

MORE BATTLE SHIPS.

Also an Increase of Torpedo Boats Favored by Secretary Herbert.

Secretary Herbert believes in the necessity of powerful fighting ships for the United States navy. His views on this subject are well known, and it is understood that his forthcoming report to Congress will embody a recommendation that an appropriation be made for at least one, if not two, battle ships.

His recommendation for battle ships is likely to be coupled with a suggestion that half a dozen torpedo boats are also needed as valuable auxiliaries in time of war.

Fourth-Class Postmasters.

The total number of fourth-class postmasters appointed today was fifty-two. Of this number thirty-four were to fill vacancies caused by death and resignation and the remainder by removals. The Virginia appointments were as follows: Altonville, Isaac Swartz, vice F. C. Coffett, resigned; Orinda, M. M. Orndorff, vice P. M. Hottel, resigned; and Springfield, J. A. Frazier, vice W. J. Cosby, dead.

THE DEAD JURIST.

Tributes Paid to the Late Justice Blatchford.

MAKING THE MOST OF HIS POWERS.

The Attorney General Draws a Striking Contrast.

MR. FULLER'S REMARKS.

This was the day set apart by the Supreme Court for honoring the memory of the late Justice Blatchford, by receiving the resolutions adopted at the recent meeting of the bar held in the first week of the present term of court. After the judgments of the day had been announced, Attorney General Olney was recognized and addressed the court.

Attorney General Olney, having read the resolutions of the bar, made an address in which he spoke appreciative words of the qualities of the deceased and especially of his tireless industry and persistent application which led him to develop his powers to the highest capacity. "If it is asked," he observed, "what was Judge Blatchford's chief characteristic as a judge, a lawyer, a man, I would say that it was his quality of his work."

It satisfied his idea of judicial duty that the controversy before him was settled by the law, and he was not content with a broad enough to cover that case. Thus, if he was not brilliant, he was safe; if he did not make large contributions to the science of jurisprudence, he was not less respectful of the law and its administration by the uniform righteousness of the results reached in actual cases.

"It must add to our admiration of Judge Blatchford that he toiled assiduously, both as a lawyer and as a judge, and that he was not content with a broad enough to cover that case. Thus, if he was not brilliant, he was safe; if he did not make large contributions to the science of jurisprudence, he was not less respectful of the law and its administration by the uniform righteousness of the results reached in actual cases."

Justice Blatchford rose to the highest of professional honors by unwaveringly treading the beaten path of the law and by a regularly graduated ascent, every stage of which, from country lawyer to city lawyer, from district judge to circuit judge, and from circuit judge to judge of the Supreme Court, was in natural and logical succession.

A Contrast Drawn.
Mr. Justice Lamar, on the other hand, was called to the like honors after a career of extraordinary vicissitudes, in which the life of the camp and the battle field alternated with that of the forum and the hustings; almost without probate as a legal practitioner; but with a thorough theoretical and practical knowledge of great affairs of state and with a well-earned national renown as an orator, statesman and man of war.

And nothing better illustrates the wide scope and variety of the future of law, this high tribunal than the fact that, notwithstanding their wholly diverse training and experience, each of them found here a fitting field for his own peculiar gifts and talents, and each of them found here a fitting field for his own peculiar gifts and talents, and each of them found here a fitting field for his own peculiar gifts and talents.

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THE PRESIDENT'S HEALTH.

A Rumor That He Is Ill Again Revived.

NO BASIS CAN BE FOUND FOR IT EXCEPT THAT HE REMAINS AT WOOLLEY SO MUCH.

The President's continued absence from the White House has revived the report that he is not in good health and cannot stand the strain of official duties.

As he did during his first term. The report is denied by Private Secretary Thurber and other friends of the President, who say that he does not come to the White House every day for the simple reason that he finds he can accomplish more work by remaining at Woolley.

His Coming Message.
Although he is considering the subject of his message to Congress, he will not be able to begin its actual preparation until he has received the reports of the business of the different departments, now being prepared by the members of his cabinet.

The actual work of preparing the message will hardly take more than a week after the President has received the necessary data. Mr. O'Brien, the President's stenographer, whose services are usually required in the preparation of executive documents, said that the President had not yet been summoned to the President's rural retreat.

Ground for the Rumor.
So far as the President is ill, the only basis for the report that he does not come into town except on cabinet days and will not then see visitors except in extreme cases.

NOT A GREAT SUM

Will Be Demanded for Bering Sea Sealing Season.

The question of claims arising out of the seizure of British sealing vessels in Bering sea prior to the modus vivendi of 1891 is the subject of negotiation between Sir Julian Pauncefote, British minister, and Secretary Gresham. There are two modes of settling claims of this character. One is by a joint or mixed commission, or by a diplomatic agreement between the two countries. The present case the latter will, doubtless, be chosen. The amount claimed by the Canadian government will not exceed \$50,000, although recent telegrams from British Columbia state that claims aggregating a million dollars have been filed with the dominion authorities at Victoria. The British government will be required to pay the sum agreed upon, but the British government will not be required to pay the sum agreed upon, but the British government will not be required to pay the sum agreed upon.

OUT FROM THE WEST.

Capt. Hassler Comes With Bright Predictions for the Future of End.

Capt. Hassler, late chief clerk of the Department of the Interior and now receiver of public moneys at End, Oklahoma, was revisiting his old stamping ground today. The department folks gathered around the captain and were regaled with wild west stories. He said: "Washington is a great town, but End is a better place. The captain declared that most of the alleged lawlessness of the section to which he now owes allegiance has not had any existence in fact. End is a town of 4,500 inhabitants, two dance halls and several other places of amusement, but for all that it is a self-respecting and God-fearing community. He said that he does not think that a single 'sooner' got in his work excepting to play the time-honored dodge of squatting and taking land.

The captain declared that most of the alleged lawlessness of the section to which he now owes allegiance has not had any existence in fact. End is a town of 4,500 inhabitants, two dance halls and several other places of amusement, but for all that it is a self-respecting and God-fearing community. He said that he does not think that a single 'sooner' got in his work excepting to play the time-honored dodge of squatting and taking land.

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THEY WILL NOT TALK

State Department Officials Preserve an Impenetrable Silence.

NO LIGHT ON THE HAWAIIAN POLICY.

Rumored Instructions That Were Given to Minister Willis.

NO PRECEDENT KNOWN.

It was confidently expected that more light would be thrown today on the administration policy towards Hawaii, especially with regard to Minister Willis' instructions for the overthrow of the provisional government and the re-establishment of the Hawaiian monarchy.

Secretary Gresham Late in Arriving. He was very busy and remained in the seclusion of his innermost sanctum nearly all day. He did not reach the department until 11:15 o'clock and it was rumored that this unusual tardiness was due to an early visit he had paid to the President at "Wooley." The latter did not come into the city today and no one at the State Department saw where the Secretary had spent the morning.

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